

Appln. No.: 09/740,382  
Amendment Dated March 29, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of December 29, 2004

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**Remarks/Arguments:**

The specification is objected to for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. In particular, Examiner states that the term "channel group selector", which is found in the claims, is not in the specification. This ground for rejection is traversed. The claims have been amended to state that a channel group indicator is selected. Basis for this amendment may be found in claims 16 and 17 and in the specification at page 8, line 13 through page 9, line 14. These amendments change only the syntax of the claims. The scope of the claims is not changed by these amendments.

Claims 1 and 3-19 are pending in the above-identified application.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11-14 and 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agasse in view of Oosterhout et al. and Matthews and Harms et al. This rejection is overcome by the amendments to claims 1, 11, 16 and 17. With regard to claim 1, Claim 1 is amended to recite, "...a channel group indicator, separate from the plurality of definable channel indicators, configured to be selected to switch the channel matrix among the groups of channels to select a current group of channels and to display a channel indicator of a base channel in the current group of channels;..." and is also amended to recite, "...a channel selector which selects and tunes the channel by adding the base channel and the channel corresponding to the definable channel indicator at the position of the cursor on the matrix." Neither Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, Harms et al. nor their combination disclose or suggest the limitations of claim 1.

Agasse concerns a navigation system for a multi channel digital television system. The invention described in Agasse includes a  $n \times m$  channel matrix (or grille) and navigation arrows causing the display to change to another group of channels. (Figure 6 and page 23, lines 9-17). However, Agasse does not display a channel group indicator or a channel indicator of a base channel. The navigation arrows described in Agasse do not indicate the channel group to be selected. Further, the navigation arrows do not indicate a base channel. The present invention indicates the group of channels being displayed allows a user to select a group of channels corresponding to a base channel. For example, in Figure 2 of the present invention, the value in channel group indicator 232 indicates a base channel number corresponding to the 00 entry

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of the matrix. Thus, the channel matrix shown in Figure 2 displays the available channels for channel numbers 001 through 099.

Harms et al. also concerns a navigation system for a multi channel digital television system. The display in Harms et al, shown in Figure 6, includes up and down scroll bars 804 and 806 to scroll through a list of TV channels from a vertical channel display 800 displaying a group of 6 channels. (Col. 10, lines 23-44). The user must continuously scroll up or down to reach a desired group of channels. This may take some time if the user wants to scroll, for example, from a group of channels in the 100s to a group of channels in the 900s. The numbers on the scroll bars do not disclose a channel indicator of a base channel as described by the present invention. In the present invention, the channel group indicator 232 includes a base channel for a group of channels allowing the user, for example, to switch from a channel group in the 100s to a channel group in the 900s very quickly. After the user switches to the desired group of channels, the present invention displays the television program for the channel corresponding to the channel indicator by adding the channel to the base channel. For example, Figure 3 shows the cursor 240 positioned over the channel indicator 230 for channel 99 when the channel group indicator 232 shows the channels in the group beginning at 300. Thus, in Figure 3, channel 399 is selected. (Page 9, lines 13-16 and Figure 3). Harms et al. do not disclose or suggest displaying a television program for a channel corresponding to a channel indicator by adding the channel to a base channel. Rather, when the desired channel is reached in Harms et al., the user selects the channel represented by a channel box 802 to tune to the TV channel represented on the channel box 802. (Col. 10, lines 17-22). The channel boxes 802, shown in Figure 6 contain the entire number of the channel. Thus, the channel is not selected by adding the channel to a base channel. This is further illustrated in Figure 8 of Harms et al. The scroll bars in Figure 8 include letters for alphabetically scrolling through channels by the channel name. Therefore, a channel cannot be selected by adding the channel and a letter.

Oosterhout concerns a method of navigating through television programs. Oosterhout et al. disclose displaying a mosaic of sub-images on a display screen. Oosterhout et al. do not disclose or suggest an  $n \times m$  channel matrix which includes a channel group indicator, separate from the plurality of definable channel indicators, displaying a channel indicator of a base channel in the current group of channels, or selecting and tuning the channel by adding the base channel to the channel corresponding to the definable channel indicator.

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Matthews, III concerns a program identification system provided to inform a user of an interactive viewing system of the identity of a program being viewed. Matthews, III does not include a channel matrix of any kind. Thus, it does not disclose or suggest an  $n \times m$  channel matrix where the channel group indicator, separate from the plurality of definable channel indicators displays a channel indicator of a base channel in the current group of channels or where a channel is selected and tuned by adding the base channel to the channel corresponding to the definable channel indicator. Because Neither Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, Harms et al., nor their combination disclose or suggest the limitations of claim 1, Claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Agasse, Oosterhout et al. and Matthews, III et al and Harms et al.

Claims 11, 16 and 17 include similar amendments and, thus, are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Agasse, Oosterhout et al. and Matthews, III et al. and Harms et al. Claims 3-4, 6-9 and 18-19 depend from claim 1 and claims 12-14 depend from claim 11. Accordingly, these claims are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Agasse, Oosterhout et al. and Matthews, III and Harms et al. for at least the same reasons as their base claims.

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agasse in view of Oosterhout et al., Matthews III, Harms et al. and Schein et al. This rejection is overcome by the amendments to claim 1. Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews and Harms et al. are described above. The Schein et al. patent concerns a method and apparatus for searching a guide using program characteristics. Schein et al. do not disclose or suggest displaying an  $n \times m$  channel matrix. Therefore, Schein et al. can not disclose or suggest the material that is missing from Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III and Harms et al. In particular, neither Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III, Harms et al., Schein et al. nor their combination disclose or suggest an  $n \times m$  channel matrix where the channel group indicator, separate from the plurality of definable channel indicators displays a channel indicator of a base channel in the current group of channels or where a channel is selected and tuned by adding the base channel to the channel corresponding to the definable channel indicator. Claim 5 depends from claim 1. Because neither Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III, Harms et al., Schein et al. nor their combination disclose or suggest the limitation of claim 1, claim 5 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious in view of Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III, Harms et al. and Schein et al. for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

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Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agasse in view of Oosterhout et al., Matthews III, Harms et al. and Handelsman. This rejection is overcome by the amendments to claim 1. Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews and Harms et al. are described above. The Handelsman application concerns a voice activated communications system and program guide. Handelsman does not disclose or suggest displaying a channel matrix a plurality of program indicators and, so, can not disclose or suggest the material that is missing from Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III and Harms et al. In particular, neither Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III, Harms et al., Handelsman nor their combination disclose or suggest an  $n \times m$  channel matrix where the channel group indicator, separate from the plurality of definable channel indicators, displays a channel indicator of a base channel in the current group of channels or where a channel is selected and tuned by adding the base channel to the channel corresponding to the definable channel indicator. Claim 10 depends from claim 1. Because neither Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III, Harms et al., Handelsman nor their combination disclose or suggest the limitation of claim 1, claim 10 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious in view of Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III, Harms et al. and Handelsman for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

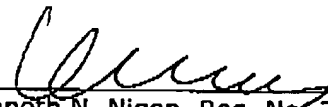
Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agasse in view of Oosterhout et al., Matthews III and Legall et al. This rejection is overcome by the amendments to claim 11. Agasse, Oosterhout et al. and Matthews are described above. The Legall et al. patent concerns an integrated search of an electronic program guide, Internet and other information resources. Legall et al. do not disclose or suggest displaying a channel matrix including a plurality of program indicators and, so, can not disclose or suggest the material that is missing from Agasse, Oosterhout et al. and Matthews, III. In particular, neither Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III, Legall et al. nor their combination disclose or suggest an  $n \times m$  channel matrix where the channel group indicator, separate from the plurality of definable channel indicators, displays a channel indicator of a base channel in the current group of channels or where a channel is selected and tuned by adding the base channel to the channel corresponding to the definable channel indicator. Claim 15 depends from claim 11. Because neither Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III, Legall et al. nor their combination disclose or suggest the limitation of claim 11, claim 15 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious in view of Agasse, Oosterhout et al., Matthews, III and Legall et al. for at least the same reasons as claim 11.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request that Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 3-19.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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KNN/tmb

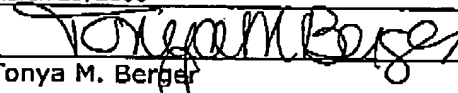
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Tonya M. Berger